

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A microwave communication network that overlays a public switched telephone
2 network comprising:
3 a plurality of microwave transceivers forming a microwave network, said trans-
4 ceivers being geographically located so as to provide a wireless interoffice facility (IOF)
5 between two or more central offices, tandem switches or other premises controlled by an
6 incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC).
- 1 2. The microwave communication network as in claim 1 wherein one or more of
2 said microwave transceivers is located proximate to one or more of said central offices,
3 tandem switches or other premises.
- 1 3. The microwave communication network as in claim 1 wherein said ILEC pro-
2 vides insufficient wireline bandwidth between two or more of said central offices, tandem
3 switches or other premises, and said microwave network provides wireless bandwidth as
4 an alternative communication path.
- 1 4. The microwave communication network as in claim 1 wherein said wireless IOF
2 provides redundancy to said public switched telephone network.
- 1 5. The microwave communication network as in claim 1 wherein said wireless IOF
2 provides bandwidth at a lower cost than said public switched telephone network.
- 1 6. The microwave communication network as in claim 1 wherein said wireless IOF
2 provides service which is complementary to that provided by said public switched tele-
3 phone network.
- 1 7. A method of providing wireless bandwidth in a microwave network which over-
2 lays a public switched telephone network comprising the steps of:
3 (1) forming a microwave network from a plurality of microwave transceivers;

4 (2) geographically arranging said transceivers so as to provide wireless interof-
5 fice facility (IOF) between two or more central offices, tandem switches or other prem-
6 ises controlled by an incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC).

1 8. A microwave communication network that overlays a public switched telephone
2 network comprising:

3 a plurality of microwave transceivers forming a microwave network, said trans-
4 ceivers being geographically located so as to provide a wireless interoffice facility (IOF)
5 between one or more central offices, tandem switches or other premises controlled by an
6 incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) and one or more central offices, tandem
7 switches or other premises controlled by a common carrier other than said ILEC.

1 9. The microwave communication network as in claim 8 wherein one or more of
2 said microwave transceivers is located proximate to one or more of said central offices,
3 tandem switches or other premises.

1 10. The microwave communication network as in claim 8 wherein said ILEC pro-
2 vides insufficient wireline bandwidth between two or more of its central offices, tandem
3 switches or other premises, and said microwave network provides wireless bandwidth as
4 an alternative communication path.

1 11. The microwave communication network as in claim 8 wherein said wireless IOF
2 provides redundancy to said public switched telephone network.

1 12. The microwave communication network as in claim 8 wherein said wireless IOF
2 provides bandwidth at a lower cost than said public switched telephone network.

1 13. The microwave communication network as in claim 8 wherein said wireless IOF
2 provides service which is complementary to that provided by said public switched tele-
3 phone network.

- 1 14. A method of providing wireless bandwidth in a microwave network which over-
2 lays a public switched telephone network comprising the steps of:
3 (1) forming a microwave network from a plurality of microwave transceivers;
4 (2) geographically arranging said transceivers so as to provide wireless interof-
5 fice facility (IOF) between one or more central offices, tandem switches or other prem-
6 ises controlled by an incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) and one or more central
7 offices, tandem switches or other premises controlled by a common carrier other than
8 said ILEC.

09343043-050301